C. CRYSTALLITES AND MICROLITES.[94] — Under these names may be included minute inorganic bodies possessing a more or less definite form, but generally without the geometrical characters of crystals. They occur most commonly in rocks which have been formed from igneous fusion, but are found also in others which have resulted from, or have been altered by, aqueous solutions. They seem to be early or peculiar forms of crystallization. They are abundantly developed in artificial slags, and appear in many modern and ancient vitreous rocks, but the conditions under which they are produced are not yet well understood.[95]

Crystallites are distinguished by remaining isotropic in polarized light. The simplest are extremely minute drop-like bodies or *globulites*, sometimes crowded confusedly through the glass, giving it a dull or somewhat granular character, while in other cases they are arranged in lines or groups. Gradations can be traced from spherical or spheroidal globulites into other forms more elliptical in shape, but still having a rounded outline and sometimes sharp ends (*longulites*). There does not appear to be any essential distinction, save in degree of development, between these forms and the long rod-like or needle-shaped bodies which have been termed *belonites*. Existing sometimes as mere simple needles or rods, these more elongated crystallites may be traced into more complex forms, curved or coiled, at one

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[94] The word *crystallite* was first used by Sir James Hall to denote the lithoid substance obtained by him after fusing and then slowly cooling various "whinstones" (diabases, etc.). Since its revival in lithology it has been applied to the minuter bodies above described. The student should consult Vogelsang's "Philosophie der Geologie," p. 139; "Krystalliten," Bonn, 8vo, 1875; also his descriptions in Archives Néerlandaises, v. 1870, vi. 1871. Sorby, Brit. Assoc. 1880.

[95] They are well exhibited also in ordinary blow-pipe beads. See Sorby, Brit. Assoc. 1880, or Geol. Mag. 1880, p. 468. They have been produced experimentally in the artificial rocks fused by Messrs. Fouqué and Michel-Lévy.